

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 and 28-30 were pending as of the Office Action mailed August 30, 2005. Claims 18-26 and 28-30 were allowed. Claims 1-4 and 10-13 were rejected. Claims 5-9 and 14-17 were objected to but would be allowable if re-written to include the rejected base claims and intervening claims.

For purposes of expediting prosecution, Claim 1 is amended to correct typographical errors and to include the limitations of Claim 5 and intervening claims. Claim 10 is amended to include the limitations of Claim 14 and the intervening claims for purposes of expediting prosecution. Claims 18, 20, and 28 are amended to correct typographical errors and not for purposes of patentability. Claims 2, 3, 5, 11, 12, and 14 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 4, 6-9, 10, 13, 16-26, and 28-30 remain for consideration. The amendments are made for the purpose of expediting prosecution, and the claim cancellations are made without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue subject matter of the original claims (prior to amendment) and subject matter of the canceled claims in subsequent prosecution. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 2-4 are dependent claims of independent Claim 1. These dependent claims include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and recite additional features, which further distinguish these claims from the cited references. Thus, claims 2-4 should be allowable.

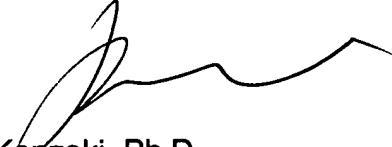
The rejection of Claims 10-11 is now moot in view of the amendments set forth above.

Since Claim 13 is now dependent upon claim 10, claim 13 should be allowable for at least the reason claim 10 is allowable.

CONCLUSION

All claims should be now be in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any questions, the applicants' attorney can be reached at Tel: 408-879-6149 (Pacific Standard Time).

Respectfully submitted,


Kim Kanzaki, Ph.D.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,652

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on October 28, 2005.

Pat Tompkins
Name


Signature